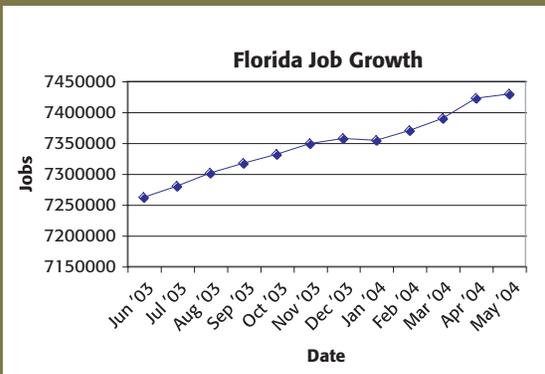
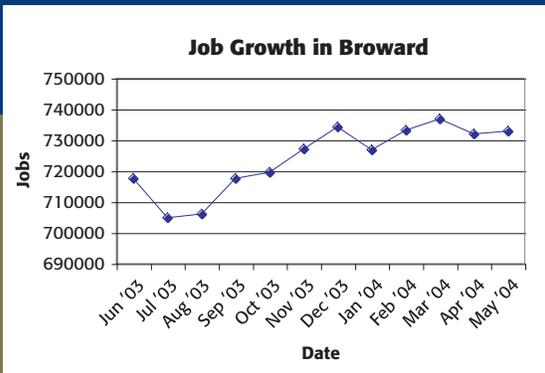
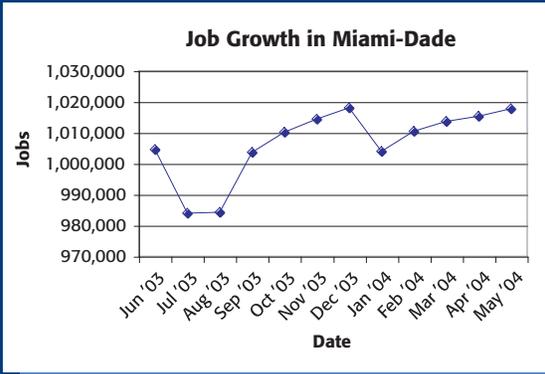


More Jobs. Stronger Economy. Brighter Futures.



A REPORT ON JOBS AND THE ECONOMY CONGRESSMAN LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART



DISTRICT 21
FLORIDA

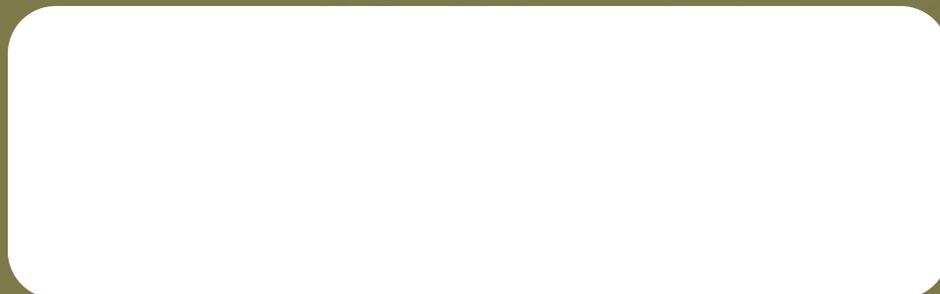
Creating and Protecting Jobs in Florida

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

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Lincoln Diaz-Balart
PRSRT STD M.C.



A Message on Jobs and the Economy

from **Congressman Lincoln Diaz-Balart**

Dear Friends:

Our economy continues on a path of renewed prosperity. And I believe that much of this progress can be credited to the tax relief package and jobs creation bills passed by Congress and signed into law by the President last year. I was proud to work with my colleagues to pass this legislation that put hard earned dollars back into the pockets of working families throughout our nation. We needed to pass legislation to help our economy grow and to create new job opportunities for all – this legislation did just that.

Across the board we are seeing reports that illustrate how the tax cuts and job creation bills have helped facilitate growth in the economy. In the last 10 months, 1.4 million new jobs have been created and the number of people who have achieved the dream of homeownership has reached an all time high. Since March 2003, the stock market has soared upwards more than 30%, inflation has been kept down and interest rates have been at historical lows -- further highlighting the confidence investors have in the positive direction of the economy.

Here in Florida, the job creation results are even more impressive. In the last year, 171,800 jobs were created in Florida – more than any other state. The people of Miami-Dade and Broward counties greatly benefited from the tens of thousands of jobs created in our community. Without question, our economy is on the right path.

The stunning nationwide level of job creation is not limited to just one industry. The jobs reports show increases in manufacturing, construction, healthcare, financial services, hospitality and service industries. Such broad-based job creation helps to ensure that new job opportunities are available to workers across numerous industries – allowing those with varying backgrounds to find good paying jobs.

With my strong support, the House recently passed H.R.4520, the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004, to help keep the economy growing and to continue to produce job opportunities for those seeking employment. This legislation focuses on making our nation's businesses more competitive on the global market by ending burdensome tariffs and reducing the tax rate. America's domestic manufacturers, producers, farmers and small businesses have the ability to expand the economy by being increasingly competitive – which in turn increases employment opportunities.

Within this legislation, I am most proud of a provision that allows Floridians to deduct their state and local sales tax in their federal income tax return. In 1986, our state's taxpayers lost the ability to deduct state and local sales taxes. The legislation that I helped pass would again allow for these deductions.

The economy is growing stronger, but we must be diligent in seeking out opportunities to increase the prosperity of everyone in our community. I will continue to support efforts to increase our economic prosperity and create good paying jobs.

Cordially,



Lincoln Diaz-Balart

A JOB IS A FUTURE.

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